(BPL). Guidelines have been recently issued for greater involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in the functioning TPDS. This includes:

— Right to information for consumers regarding Fair Price Shops (FPS), entitlement, price, number of cards attached to shop etc.

— Display of stock position at FPS.

— List of BPL beneficiaries to be displayed at FPS and office of Gram Panchayat for public scrutiny.

— Formation of FPS Committee by Gram Panchayat for inspecting the FPS records and to keep a watch on functioning of FPS. FPS committee's report to be placed before larger body i.e., Gram Sabhas for onward transmission to State Government for taking necessary action.

— Responsibility of the Gram Panchayats in checking of ration cards occasionally for its genuineness and correct entries of units in them.

— Redressal of grievances.

Allocation to Assam under PDS

165. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the monthly quota fixed for various essential commodities distributed through Public Distribution System in Assam;

(b) the details of actual release of quota for the State during the last three years; and

(c) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) The monthly quota of rice and wheat fixed for Assam under the Targeted Public Distribution System

(TPDS) as well as the monthly allocations of sugar, kerosene and edible oil are given below:

(figures in Metric tonnes)

Commodity	Quantity		Total
Rice	BPL-19060	APL-25940	35000
Wheat	BPL-Nil	APL-10300	10300
Sugar			15687
Kerosene			22719
Edible Oil			Nil

(b) and (c) The entire quantity allotted is released by the Government. However, offtake may differ from the allotted quantity from time to time due to various regions. The details of allotment of quota of rice, wheat and sugar for Assam. During the last three years are given in Statement. (*See* below)

The annual allocations of kerosene made to the State during the years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 is 263760 MTs, 271235 MTs and 272623 MTs respectively.

During the years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 Edible Oil has not been allocated to and lifted by Assam.

Statement

Allocation and Offtake of Rice, Wheat and Sugar under PDS to Assam during the last three years.

(Figures in '000 tonnes)

Commodity	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake
Rice	590.850	438.310	620.000	555.050	490.000	410.068
Wheat	323.080	193.940	363.600	311.867	183.000**	192.277**
Sugar*	117.184		117.184		133.501	

* Lifting of levy sugar is assumed to be 100%.

** April to December, 99.

Off-take of PDS

166. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details regarding the offtake of PDS since 1991-92 to 1999-2000;

(b) whether Government would take any steps to enhance the offtake; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) Rice, wheat, sugar, edible oil and kerosene are allocated to the State Governments for distribution under the Public Distribution System (PDS). The State-wise details of allocation and offtake of rice, wheat, sugar and edible oil since 1991-92 to 1999-2000 may be seen in Annexure A to I [*See* Appendix 189, Annexure No. 4]. State-wise details of kerosene offtake for the years from 1992-93 to 1999-2000 may be seen in Annexure [*See* Appendix 189, Annexure No. 5].